

Application No. 09/923272
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Amendment After Final
Attorney Docket No. D55.2B-10027-US01

Amendments To The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A firearm comprising:
 - a) an elongate barrel ~~having a length of at least three feet, said elongate barrel~~ having a breach end and a muzzle end; and
 - b) a plurality of vents disposed through said elongate barrel, said vents initiating beyond twelve inches from said breach end, said vents terminating proximate to said muzzle end, said vents having a size less than ½ inch in diameter, said vents being constructed and arranged to minimize sound report by gradual release of gasses through said vents along said barrel toward said muzzle end of said firearm following discharge, said vents minimizing gas pressure proximate to said muzzle end.
2. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 1, wherein said elongate barrel has a length of less than 12 feet.
3. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said elongate barrel is formed of barrel sections.
4. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein said barrel sections are releasably coupled to each other.
5. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein said barrel sections are fixedly secured to each other.
6. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein each of said barrel sections have the same length dimension.
7. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein at least two of said barrel sections have different length dimensions.

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8. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein said elongate barrel has a length of approximately seven feet.
9. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said plurality of vents are of the same size.
10. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 2, said plurality of vents comprising vents of at least two different sizes.
11. (Cancelled) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said vents have a size less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter.
12. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said vents are grouped into at least one sector.
13. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said vents are regularly spaced within each of said sectors.
14. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said vents are irregularly spaced within each of said sectors.
15. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said vents are the same size within each of said sectors.
16. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 12, said vents comprising vents of at least two different sizes within each of said sectors.
17. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said sectors have an identical length dimension.
18. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein at least two of said sectors have a different length dimension.
19. (New) A firearm comprising:

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a) an elongate barrel having a breach end and a muzzle end; and
b) a plurality of vents disposed through said elongate barrel, said vents initiating beyond twelve inches from said breach end, said vents terminating proximate to said muzzle end, said vents positioned along the barrel to minimize sound report by gradual release of gasses through said vents along said barrel toward said muzzle end of said firearm following discharge, said vents reducing gas pressure proximate to said muzzle end.

20. (New) The firearm according to claim 19, wherein the barrel is at least three feet long.

21. (New) The firearm according to claim 19, wherein the barrel is constructed of two or more sections.

22. (New) The firearm according to claim 19, wherein the vents have a diameter of less than a 1/2 inch.

23. (New) The firearm according to claim 21, wherein at least one section is constructed of material selected from the group consisting of light-weight metal, plastic, fiberglass, or any combination thereof.